over a period of six years. The implementation of the project, which covers the whole State, will increase the areas covered under the afforestation and tree planting activities in Andhra Pradesh including the Eastern Ghat region.

Removal of Timber from East and West Godavari district due to flood in Godavari River

1101. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that during Godavari floods, large quantities of valuable timber are removed from forest ranges in East Godavari and West Godavari Districts of Andhra Pradesh;

(b) whether Central Government have assured the State Government of additional manpower to man the various check-posts; and

(c) whether Government propose to send observers to the particular area to augment and advise the State Government to check depletion of valuable forest resources with details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) Sometimes during heavy floods trees standing along the banks of Godavari river are uprooted, which are salvaged by the State Forest Department as drift wood.

(b) and (c) No, Sir.

Obtaining of Ozone Fund

1102. SHRI YERRA NARAYANASWAMY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that India has been active in the formation of the Ozone Fund;

(b) whether India has obtained any funds from the said Ozone Fund;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(a) whether it is a fact that commercial interests are preventing release of funds to develop technology to preserve Ozone layer; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) Although India acceded to the Montreal Protocol, alongwith its London Amendments on June 19, 1992, it has played an important role since beginning in the negotiations leading to the Montreal Protocol, including formulation of the Ozone Fund.

(b) and (c) So far 228 projects for an amount of US Dollars 9.4 million have been approved for India by the Ozone Fund. The details of projects approved are given in Annexure [See Appendix 171, Annexure No. 23]

(d) and (e) The guidelines for transfer of financial resouces and transfer of technology to developing countries are decided by the Conference of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol. The Executive Committee, which consists of equal number of representatives from developed countries, administers the Multilateral Fund and ensures implementing of these guidlines. The Executive Committee considers issues within the Protocol and guidelines given by the Parties. All members of the Executive Committee are expected to take a stand for release of funds and transfer of technology to developing countries on objective considerations.

Installation of Pollution monitoring Devices in Towns

1103. SHRI YERRA NARAYANASWAMY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to help the finance State Governments to instal and operate pollution monitoring devices in small and medium sized towns;